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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /003 R

66603
DRAFTED BY: IO/UN/BAPS:WMSOUTHWORTH
APPROVED BY: IO - DAVID TELLEEN
---------- 046339
R 051511Z DEC 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR NESCO
MONTREAL FOR ICAO
ROME FOR FODAG

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM USUN DEC 4

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: AORG UN XF
SUBJ: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: ARABIC AS UN LANGUAGE

1. SECRETARIAT HAS COMPLETED PREPARATION OF REPORT (A/C. 5/1564 ADVANCED COPY PROVIDED ON STOTTLEMYER ACABQ) ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED INCLUSION OF ARABIC AMONG OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGES OF GA AND ITS COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES. COSTS ARE ESTIMATED AS FOLLOWS: SALARIES AND COMMON STAFF COSTS - $1,995,000; GA TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE - $370,000; RENTAL
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AND MAINTENANCE OF PREMISES (FULL YEAR) - $186,000;

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INTERNAL REPRODUCTION EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES - $95,000;
COMMUNICATIONS - $50,000; INSTALLATION - $10,000; OFFICE
EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE - $40,000; ALTERATIONS TO PREMISES -
$238,000; TOTAL $2,984,000. STAFF ASSESSMENT FOR $384,000
WOULD ALSO BE ADDED BUT WOULD BE OFFSET UNDER INCOME SECTION
ONE BY SAME AMOUNT. IN ADDITION, PROVISION OF SUMMARY
RECORDS IN ARABIC WOULD COST $994,000 AND VERBATIM
RECORDS WITH SOME ADDITIONAL RECORDING AND SOUND TRANSCRIP-
TION EQUIPMENT $338,000.

2. IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE PERSISTENTLY PUT
FORWARD IDEA CONTAINED PARA 3 STATE 197420 BUT
THIS POSITION, WHILE AROUSING EXPRESSION OF POLITE
INTEREST, HAS GOTTEN NOWHERE. WEOS FAOUND CONCEPT "CLEVER
BUT IMPRACTICAL." ARAB DELS REACTED POLITELY BUT
WITHOUT FURTHER INTEREST.

3. IN LIGHT OF LACK OF INTEREST IN PAY-AS-YOU-GO PLAN, WE
SUGGEST SOME VARIATIONS MIGHT BE IN ORDER. AS FIRST POINT,
WE MIGHT SEEK WEO AGREEMENT ON NEED FOR DETAILED STUDY OF
IMPLICATION OF ADDING ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES. ALTHOUGH WE
WOULD NOT WANT TO ENCOURAGE HASTY ADDITION OF GERMAN AND
JAPANESE TO LIST OF WORKING LANGUAGES, WE SHOULD MAKE
POINT THIS IS CERTAINLY POSSIBILITY. HEAVY ADDITIONAL
FINANCIAL BURDEN OF 6, 7, OR 8 WORKING LANGUAGES WOULD
PLACE EVEN FURTHER STRAIN ON UN BUDGET. IN ADDITION,
DELAYS CAUSED BY TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENTS WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY
INCREASE AND GA ITSELF COULD REACH POINT OF PARALYSIS.
US DEL MIGHT SEEK AGREEMENT FROM OTHERS TO PROPOSE SPECIAL
COMITE TO EXAMINE BEST WAY TO ACCOMMODATE INTEREST OF
MEMBER STATES IN INTRODUCING NEW LANGUAGES WITHOUT HARMING
UN AS EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION. ALL ASPECTS OF PROBLEM,
INCLUDING PAY-AS-YOU-GO PLAN, COULD BE STUDIED AND COMITE
WOULD REPORT BACK TO 29TH GA.

4. DEPT'S COMMENTS REQUESTED.
BENNETT
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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